(b) and (c) On the application from Senior Technical Assistant/G.I./Surveyor etc. the case is pending with the Central Administrative Tribunal, New Delhi and therefore, is *subjudice*.

Production and Import of Sugar

1232. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the carry over stock of sugar of the last season and the estimated production of sugar in the current crushing season; and

(b) whether Government proposes to cut down import of sugar in this year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) The carry over stock of sugar at the beginning of 1988-89 season was about 25.32 lakh tonnes. The present estimates of production during the current season are at about 99.50 lakh tonnes. However, the firm production trend will be known by the end of March/April, 1989.

(b) No imports are envisaged during the current season.

Opening of Branches/Officers of Registrar of Newspapers in all State Capitals

1233. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open branches/offices of Registrar of Newspapers in all State Capitals with full rights;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) Due to financial constraints, it has not been found possible to open Offices of Registrar of Newspapers for India in all State Capitals. However, it is proposed to upgrade offices at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta as Regional Offices to look after the needs of the newspapers in the respective Region.

Loans by N.F.D.C. to Private Film Production Companies

1234. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI HARI SINGH:
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of loans given to private film production companies by N.F.D.C. during the last three years and what are their names alongwith amount advanced to them; how much of it has since been returned and by which company to the N.F.D.C. year-wise; and

(b) what measures have been taken to realise the arrears?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Statement indicating the loans disbursed by National Film Development Corporation to private film production companies/individuals under its Film Financing Scheme during the years 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 and the amount repaid by them till date are given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 66.]

(b) List of measures taken or available to National Film Development Corporation to realise the arrears are indicated in the Statement.

Statement

List of measures taken or available to National Film Development Corporation to realise the arrears

1. Corporation holds negative rights of all films financed by it. Thus without its consent, no print can be taken out from the laboratory for release purpose.

2. In case of default, demand notices are issued to Producers for repayment by a prescribed time failing which the case is referred to Chairman, NFDC for arbitration in terms of loan agreement. Award passed by arbitrator is filed in the court for obtaining decree and its execution.

3. Besides initiating legal action for recovery, Corporation adopts parallel measures for recovery of loan by selling rights of films in India and overseas territories, by offering film for telecast, exploiting film in non-commercial circuits, offering prints of films to Government Departments against royalty etc.

New Light Railway System in the country

1235. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to start new light railway system in various cities of the country during the 8th Plan Period;

(b) if so, the names of the cities where such Light Railway System (Underground) is likely to be introduced; and

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c) Need for rail-based mass rapid transit systems in the metropolitan cities and other big cities is being increasingly felt. Feasibility reports have been prepared in case of some cities. The introduction of rail-based mass rapid transit systems involves heavy capital investments. Therefore, introduction of such systems will have to be considered at the time of finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan in the light of the national priorities and overall availability of resources. It is, therefore, not possible to identify the cities and the time frame for the introduction of such systems at this point of time.

Role of Housing Corporations

1236. SHRI *MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eighth National Congress of Housing Corporation has recently recommended a major role for housing Corporations in the Eighth Plan Period;

(b) if so, the other recommendations made therein; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Eighth National Congress of Housing Cooperative held on 4th & 5th February, 1989 has stressed the need to assign a major role to the housing cooperatives during the 8th Five Year Plan in terms of financial allocation and land allotment. The National Housing Policy emphasises the need to strengthen the Cooperative movement in various ways.

Reduction of Ration Quota of Rice

1237. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether rice quota for Fair Price Shops has been reduced in the Capital;